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Vol.1.

No1



A MAGAZINE OF LOCAL HISTORY

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NORWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

November, 1898.

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A MAGAZINE OF LOCAL HISTORY

Vol.1. Norwell, Massachusetts; November, 1898. No.1.

THE OLD CEMETERY:

THE following facts relating to the old Second Church cemetery, located near the residence of James Green, have been collected because of a desire that some permanent record of the yard might be preserved.

This lot was first used as a burying ground about the year 1680, and here stood the meeting-house of the Second Church of Christ in Scituate (now the First Unitarian Church, Norwell)

from 1680 to 1707.

When the society moved its place of meeting to Herring-Brook Hill, near its present church building, the old burying ground became neglected

Many very old stones, however, are still in good preservation, and these serve as a link to bind us back to the past.

We cannot help connecting this spot with Gray's beautiful poem, and saying with him "Perhaps in this neglected spot is

Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire,

Hands that the rod of empire might have swayed

Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre.

Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife,

Their quiet wishes never learned to stray.

Along the cool sequestered vale of life

They kept the noiseless tenor of their way."

This is one of the oldest cemeteries in the country, and stones dated earlier than the William Barrel stone (1689) are rarely met with.

The church had its first burying ground at Wilson's Hill, about one mile east from this yard, as its meeting-house stood there from 1645 to 1680.

All traces of that cemetery

have been destroyed many years since by vandal hands. But few gravestones probably were erected there. One of these was recovered last spring from an old farm in Scituate, where it was located by diligent search. This is the stone of Elder Thomas King, who died in 1691. It is the wish of some members of the King family to reset this stone and also erect a historical tablet, as Elder Thomas King was the common ancestor of a very long line of descendants.

The words of Celia Thaxter in which she speaks of the graves of the Spanish sailors at the Isles of Shoals suggest themselves as appropriate to this deserted churchyard,

"Already the stones lean this way and that, and are half buried in the rank grass. Soon they will be entirely forgotten; the old, old world forgets so much! And it is sown thick with graves from pole to pole."

The oldest inscription is

HERE LYSE The BODY OF WILLIAM BARRELS WHO DIED NOVEMBER THE 7 1689.

AGEED 35 YEARS

There are probably many, very

many graves here which are unmarked. A list of all the remaining headstones, with the year of the person's death, follows,

Obadiah, son of Mr. Jo-- Dwelle D 1705, aged 9.

Mr. Thomas Crocker of Barnftable D 1718, aged 44.

Mrs. Lucrecy, wife to Mr. Sammuel Silvstr.
D 1718, aged 44.

Mr. Charles Stockbridge. D 1731, aged 67.

Mrs. Rebecca Mountfort, Relict of Mr. Benjm Mountfort, Marchant in Boston.
D 1727, aged 75.

Mrs. Anne Chegley, wife of Mr. John Chegley of Boston. D 1714, aged 84.

Mrs. An Jones, wife of Mr. Tommos Jones, who d. 1747, aged 79.

Mr. Simeon Dwelle D 1723, aged 22.

Mrs Suseanna Dwelle D 1729, aged 18.

Mr. John Dwelle
D 1718,
aged about 58.

Mrs. Grace Dwelle wife to Mr. Richard Dwelle, Junier. D 1716, aged 21.

Mrs. Deborah w of Samuel Oakman. D 1795 in her 79th year.

Sam! Oakman Esq. D 1791, aged 63.

Samuel sun of Sam! and Deborah Oakman, D 1776 aged 8 yrs. LAKING 15 days.

Seth Oakman, D 1759 aged lyr.6 mo.8 17 days.

Samuel Oakman. D 1756, aged 3 yrs.

JOHN TURNER.
(Foot stone only.)

RIAL TURNER.
(Foot stone only)

Michel Turner. D 1744, aged 23.

Mrs. Abigail Curtis.

(Foot stone only.)

Malzar Turner. D 1750, aged 22.

Mr. John Turner.
D 1778 in his 86th yr.

Mrs. Marcy Turner, wife of Mr. John Turner, D 1757, in her 63d yr.

(Partly defaced stone.) Probably— Mary, day to Mr. John Hatch, D 1738, aged 15.

Mirs. Mary wife to Mr. John Hatch, d 1750 in her 79th year.

Mr. John Hateh.
D. 1737, aged 73.

Mr. John Hatch, Jun.
D 1730 in his 33^dyr.

John, son of John Hatch, Jun. D Feb. 27, 1728, aged 2 months.

Capt. John James. D 1761, aged 85.

Mrs. Eunies James.
D 1717, aged 35.

Thomas Tomlin.

Mr. Sammuel Randall. D 1723, aged 29.

Mr. Job Randall.
D 1727, aged about 73 yrs.

Joseph Randall, Ju. D 1713, aged 37.

Capt. Joseph Barstow. D 1728, aged 52

Deacon Joseph Turner. D 1724, aged 75.

Mrs. Batshua Turner wife to Deacon Joseph Turner. D 1724, aged 83.

Mrs. Jemima, ye wite of Mr. David Hatch. D 1786 in her 73° year.

Lidia Barrel.
D 1714, aged 62 yrs

Mirs. Abegail Turner wife of Capt. Elisha Turner D 1764, aged 25.

Mrs. Abigail Jankins ye vertuous consort of Mr. Thomas Jankins.

D 1742, aged 76.

Mr. Hatherly Foster.
D 1751, aged 79 years.

Mrs. Batshua Foster, ye virtuous wife of Mr. Hatherly Foster, D 1744 in her 66th year.

Mr. Timothy Foster.
D 1730, aged 24.

L-eut Elisha Foster. D 1771, aged 62. Mrs. Temperance ye wife of Li-u Elisha Forster D 1777, aged 62.

Sarah ye wife of Mr. John Foster D 1788, in y 47th yr of her Age.

John Foster.
D 1815, aged 75yrs, 8 mos.

Mrs. Mary Foster, widow of Mr. John Foster. D 1819, aged 67.

Foot stone: E.R. (Headstone broken)

Broken Headstone:
April ye 15, 1713.
--eed 35 yeares.

Foot stone: N.S.

The town records show this to have been probably the grave of NATH-ANIEL STETSON.

(The rest are of comparatively recent date.)

Peter Thatcher Tilden son of Thatcher Tilden.

D 1824, aged 32.

Lucy, daughter of Thatcher Tilden. D 1822, aged 28.

Charles, son of Thatcher Tilden. D 1817, aged 2 yrs and 9 mos. Mrs. Lucy, wife of Thatcher Tilden D 1819, aged 47.

Thatcher Tilden, D 1843, aged 78

Betsey L.Tilden, D 1855, aged 78

Israel Turner, D 1849, aged 64

Betsey, dau of Israel and Mercy Turner, D 1844, Act. 52.

Deborah, D. 1837, aged 22. Hannah, D. 1837, aged 19. Children of Charles and Deborah Turner.

Deborah Foster. D 1854, aged 64.

Timothy Foster.
D 1854, aged 79.

Joseph, son of Timothy Foster. D 1826, aged 12.

Charles, son of Timothy Foster. D 1826, aged 17.

Hannah wife of Timothy Foster. D 1827, aged 54.

John Foster, D 1848, aged 80. Abigail Southworth, his wife, D 1857, aged 88.

Charles Ford.

D 1862, aged 91.

Lydia, his wife.

D 1862, aged 77.

Charles Ford, Jr. D 1858, aged 55.

Zebiah, wife of Charles Ford, Jr. D 1888, aged 90.

Lilles C. Ford, D 1891, aged 75.

Thomas Sables, who died in 1894 and also his wife, are buried here, but their graves are unmarked

The Samuel Oakman stone has this beautiful verse at the base

"The wise, the just, the pious and the brave

Live in their deaths and flourish in their grave;

Grain hid in earth repays the peasant's care,

And Evening suns but set to rise more fair."

The reader will find one stone with only this inscription, "Thom AS TOMLIN." The query at once comes "Who could this be? The writer accidentally came across a clue to this person while looking over Briggs "History of Ship-Building on North River." The brigantine "Prudent Sarah" was built in 1700 and the owners were Capt. Thomas Tomlin and James Allison of the Island of Jamaica, Capt. Thomas Tomlin was also one of the owners of the brigantine "Sarah and Isabella" built by Robert Barker and Edward Wanton in 1700 or thereabouts.

George C. Turner.

THE KING STONE.

There is something extreme ly satisfactory in locating the graves of our ancestors. It is a duty, also, that we owe to our progenitors, to see that the spot where their bodies were laid to rest by their loving friends is kept sacredly free from wanton trespassers.

It is a sad fact that the first burying ground in that part of old Scituate which is now Norwell was broken up some sixty or seventy years since and tradition, only, tells the location

of the yard.

It was with great satisfaction that the writer obtained a clue to some of the old grave-stones, and it was a great pleasure to him to carry the search to a successful culmination.

The facts cannot be better related than in the issue of the Hanover Branch for Apr. 29, 1898, from which the following paragraphs are quoted.

"An interesting discovery was made at Greenbush last Saturday by Mr. George C. Turner of Norwell, who sends the par-

ticulars to this paper.

The First Unitarian Church at Norwell Centre was formed in 1642, and its first meetinghouse stood on Wilson's Hill, near the Norwell-Scituate line. Here the society began a burying ground and continued its use until late in the 17th century, when it became neglected, and finally, probably about 1830, some mercenary person pulled up the old gravestones and made the spot a mowing field.

Mr. Turner learned from conversations with aged people that some of the stones were carried to the old Chandler Clapp place in Greenbush, and put under the corners of an old cornhouse. Last Saturday he visited the place with Mr. Frederic Cole and Mr. Charles O. Ellms of Scituate, and was delighted to find his surmises correct. Two stones were found, but only one had an inscription. This one is well nigh perfect, and reads as follows:

HERE LYES YE BODY
OF THOMAS KING
who died September 24,
1691.
aged about 78 years."

Elder Thomas King was born in England in 1614, and came to this country in the ship Blessing in 1635. He was chosen Elder of the Church to succeed Elder William Hatch. He was the common ancestor of the branch of the King family which forms the basis of the valuable King Genealogy published by Harvey B. King at Hartford, Conn., in 1897. He was a very prominent man and his name appears often in the early records. Let us hope that this ancient burial place will some day be properly marked.

FIRST UNITARIAN

FOUNDED

(Founded) NORWELL

NORWELL

Present Church Building erected 1830.

Minister, Rev. Thomas Thompson.

An earnest and cordial invitation to all the services of this church is now, as always, extended to all persons in our village, to all persons in our town, to all persons in the vicinity.

SERVICES at II a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL at 12:
Young People's Christian Union
in Library Hall, at 7.30 p.m.

HYMN.

(Written for the Rededication of the First Church, Pembroke, in 1893.)

Tune, Italian Hymn.

Church that our fathers knew, Church that from every pew Speaks of the gone! [FOft have they knelt to thee: Fod of Eternity, Thou Only One.

Church that our fathers knew, Church that from every pew Speaks of the gone!

II: Oft may we come to thee;

God of Eternity,

Lead Thou us on!

This letter explains itself:

Boston, June 15, 1898. Mr. Turner, Dear Sir:

Your kind letter received. I have searched the records of the family, and have found out who the party is. My great grandfather, Benjamin Mountfort, married Rebecca Foster of Dorchester. Benjamin died in 1714, and was buried in the Granary burying ground. His wife, Rebecca, died in 1727 and was buried in So. Scituate, the home of her grandfather.

Resp. yours. William F. Mountfort.

PUBLISHER'S MOTE.

Address inquiries concerning the old cemetery, church history or similar matters to

George C. Turner, River St. Norwell, Mass.

Kindly enclose stamp and I will gladly give such information as I have. I cannot, however, undertake the laborious work of searching records without charging a slight fee.

OLD LANDMARKS.

The old Waterman house at the corner of Pine Street was built about 1762. Tradition says that the old Lapham house was built 1717.

The old box factory on River Street was formerly the Universalist Church in Duxbury. The tower with its weather vane is still intact, but the curved windows have been boarded over. One of the old pew doors is in the house of Mrs. Eveline Torrey. Mrs. Mary A. Livermore gives a beautiful description of scenes connected with this church in her recent book, "The Story of My Life."

The following gentlemen, all of whom, except Mr. Gaffield, are descendants of persons whose mortal remains rest in the old cemetery, have contributed toward the clearing up of the yard this year.

Their help has also made possible the publication of

"HISTORIA"

Mr. Hatherly Foster, Boston.

Mr. Charles F. Foster, Chester, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Thomas Gaffield, Norwell.

Mr. Jedediah Dwelley, Hanover.

Whether another number of HISTORIA is published or not will depend upon circumstances. The expense will, of course be the main obstacle.

"Heistoria"
is drawn and printed on the
EDISON
MIMTEOGRAPH
by
CHAS.W. DORR.

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(formerly of Norwell.)

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Norwell, (formerly South Scituate) Mass., February, 1899

ANCESTRAL PEWS.

"The Past and Present here unite Beneath Time's flowing tide Like foot-prints hidden by a brook, But seen on either side."

-Longfellow.

THE church where our fathers worshipped, the place where the young men and maidens, parents and children of days gone by found spiritual instruction and pleasant social companionship, should ever be the especial object of our filial respect and love.

To "call the old time back," and to furnish to the descendants of the men and women who first came to the First Parish Church as occupants of the several pews, information which may prove interesting, is the purpose of this article.

On October thirteenth, 1830, Rev. Samuel Deane preached the dedicatory sermon "in the presence" he says in his History of Scituate "of a very large assembly.

The noble character of Mr. Deane is strikingly manifested in this sermon, and those who

possess a copy have a document of rare value.

At this time the pews, exclusive of the free pews in the gallery, numbered seventy, but in 1867 extensive improvements were made in the interior of the house and ten of the pews were removed; also, at that time the remaining pews were re-numbered. The ones removed were: old numbers 1, 2, 3, 41, 42, 56, 57, 21, 22 and 23. Numbers 1, 41, 56 and 21 were the rear pews, therefore the seat of each of these remains.

in this article the present number of the pew is given in large figures, and the old number in small figures.

It is a matter of regret to the writer that the necessary limits of this article prevent him from giving the grand-children of the pew-owners in every case.

When children of the 1830 pew-owners are living, they only are given, otherwise either the grand-children or greatgrand-children are given.

In 1830 several persons owned two pews. In such cases only that pew is traced which is remembered by elderly people as the new of the family. Space does not permit the giving of a list of the present pew owners. This information can be easily obtained by any one, and it is interesting to note that in a majority of cases the title still remains with the family.

In speaking of each pew, ef fort has been made to give sufficient data to clearly indicate

the ancestral line.

No 1, 43. ELISHA HAYDEN.

Mr. Hayden was a direct descendant of Joseph Hayden who settled in Scituate in 1720. One son. Charles W. Hayden, is now living in Weymouth.

There are many grand-children. (This statement will apply as well to many of the following pews)

No.3, 44. BENJAMIN TURNER A descendant from Humphrey Turner, 1633. Children living: David S. Turner, Chelsea; Roland Turner, Scituate.

No. 4, 59. JOSEPH T. LITCHFIELD. Probaby from Lawrence Litchfield, 1646 Children living: Mrs. Mary E. Knight, Roxbury; Mrs. Martha J. Presby, Roxbury; Mirs. Cordelia Litchfield, Hingham.

No.5.45 SHIVERICK & ABIELTURNER. From Humphrey Turner, 1633. One daughter of Shiverick Turner is now living: Mrs. Sally Stockbridge. Children of Abjel Turner living: George R. Turner Hingham: Henry Abiel Turner

No.7. 46. JAMES N. SPARRELL. From James N. Sparrell, 1766. Children living: Charles W. Sparrell; George H. Sparrell, Pony, Montana: Mrs. Deborah C. N. Skiff, Mrs. Mary T. Turner, Mrs. Martha J. Wilcox, all of New Bedford.

No. 8, 61. JOSHUA JAMES. From John James, 1668. Grand-children living: Wm.E. Parmenter, Jr., Orange Park, Fla. James P. Parmenter Arlington.

No. 9, 42 BENJAMIN MERRITT From Henry Merritt, 1626. Grandchildren living: Miss Louise Phillips Merritt, Boston: Mr. Benjamin Frederic Merriti, New York.

EBENEZER STETSON No. 10, 62, From Cornet Robert Stelson, 1634. No descendants of Deacon "Eb. en" Stetson are now living.

No. 11, 48. JAMES FOSTER From Edward Foster, 1633. Mr. Foster must have soon transferred this pew to his father,

John Foster, who occupied it as long as he lived.

Grand-children living: Chas. A. Tilden, East Boston: Mrs.

Julia Turner.

No.12. 63. WILLIAM JAMES From John James, 1668.

Children living: Albert James, Benton Harbor, Michigan; Miss Hannah Packard James, Wilkesbarre, Penn; Wrs. Welthea Alden Merritt, Boston.

No.13_49. NATHANIEL CLAPP
From Thomas Clap, 1640.
Grand-children living: Frank
Allen Clapp, Winchester; Geo.
Allen Clapp, Newtonville; Arthur Winship Clapp, Roxbury;
Miss Antoinette Clapp, Roxbury.

No.14. 64. SAMUELA.TURNER

and FRANCIS TURNER

From Humphrey Turner, 1633.

One son of Samuel A. Turner is living: John Turner. Children of Francis Turner living: Francis H., Somerville; Edwin, Danversport.

No. 15. 50. ANSON ROBBINS From Nathaniel Robbins, Marshfield. One daughter, Miss Clarissa Robbins, is now living.

No.16.65. JOSIAH CUSHING No children living.

No.17. st. JOHN NASH From Joseph Nash, 1700. Mrs. Eliza Nash is the only child of John Nash now living.

No. 18. 66. ELIJAH B. TURNER and WALTER FOSTER.
From Humphrey Turner, 1633; and Ed-

ward Foster, 1633.

Children of Mr.Turner now living: Mrs. Mary B. Sylvester of Hanover; Miles S. Turner, Hanover. No descendants of Walter Foster are living.

No. 19. 52. SAMUEL FOSTER
from Edward Foster, 1633.
One great-grand-child is now livIngt Mrs. Mary L. Power.

No. 20. 67. HOWARD BOWKER
Probably from James Bowker, 1680.
Children living: Miss Julia A.J.
Bowker; Davis W. Bowker of
Kingston; Mrs. Eveline Torrey.

No. 21. 53. ELISHA FOSTER From Edward Foster, 1633.
One son, Henry, Was, a few years since, living in Berkeley, California.

No. 22.68. SAMUEL DEANE
The Pastor of the church.
Grand-children living: Harry
Stannard Deane, Mirs. Kittle
Eloise Blount, John Milton
Deane, Miss Stella Martha
Deane; all of Chicago.

This pew was afterward owned by the Delano family.

No. 23. 54. E.T. FOGG.
From Samuel Fogg of Kensington, N.H.
Children living NIrs. Elizabeth
A.Tryon, Roseville, N.J. Geo.
P. Fogg, Brookline.

No.24. 69. LEMUEL and NATHANIEL TURNER

From Humphrey Turner, 1633. Lemuel Turner has no descendants living. Children of Nathaniel Turner living: Miss Lucy Turner, Mrs. Frances Harlow, Marshfield.

No. 25, 55. CUSHING OTIS From John Otis, 1661. No descendants are now living.

No.28, s. FRANCIS MERRITT
From Henry Merritt, 1626.
Children Living Francis Merritt,
Duxbury; Mrs. Clara Curtis, Medford; Nirs. Madeline I. Perkins, E.
Boston; Mrs. Martha R. Torrey,
Mrs. Mary E. Litchfield, Nirs. Priscilla H. Stetson, Woburn; Ellery
Channing Merritt Bryantville.

No.29, 6. LOT LITCHFIELD. From Lawrence Litchfield, 1646. One son, Lot Litchfield, is now living in Pembroke.

No.30, z CALVIN DAMON Probably from John Damon, 1633. Children living: C.Alphonso Damon, Boston.

No. 31, 8. HENRY MERRITT From Henry Merritt, 1626. Children living Henry Merritt, Mrs. Emeline Turner, both of Hingham.

No.32.9. NATHANIEL CUSHING From John Cushing, 1662. The only child of Nathaniel Cushing now living is Nathan Cushing.

No. 33, 10. JONATHAN HATCH From Thomas Harch, 1646. Grandchildren living: Joseph H. Hatch, Cushing Hatch; Leonard C. Hatch: Hingham; George Hatch. Scituate; Marshall Hatch, Jonathan Hatch, Scituate; Mrs. Elizabeth Perry, Whitman; Mrs. Eveline Dill, Rockland; Mrs. Hattie Curtis, Abington; and others.

No. 34, 11. GEO. W. STETSON Descendants not traced

No.35, 12. BAILEY JENKINS.

From Edward Jenkins, 1646,

Descendants not traced.

No.36, 13. ELIJAH DAMON Probably from John Damon, 1633. One daughter, Miss Susan C. Damon, is now living in E. Boston

No.37, 14. HON WILKES WOOD Judge Wood came from Middle boro about 1828. No descendants have been traced.

No.38, 15. HENRY BRIGGS
From Walter Briggs, 1643.
Children living: Mrs. Deborah Clapp
Nash, Wellesley Hills.

No.39, 16. PAUL BRIGGS & CO. From Walter Briggs, 1643.
Grandchildren living: Benjamin Briggs; Geo. A. Briggs, Scituate.
This pew was afterward owned by

Harrison Wilder

No. 40, 17. LUTHER TILDEN
From Nathaniel Tilden, 1628.
Grand-children living: Mrs. Josephine Bramen, N. York; Mrs. Julia M. Turner: Charles Albert Tilden, E. Boston; Edward Southworth, Quincy. Wm. Francis Turner, Assinippi; IMrs. Arabella Ford, Mrs. Eudora Bailey, N. Scituate; Waldo Turner, Weymouthgeorge Thomas Tilden, Milton; Mrs. Laura Tilden Greene, Dorchester; Wm. Phillips Tilden, Milton; Miss

Helen Lewis; Waltham.

No.41, 18. MRS. ABIGAIL FOSTER From John Oxis, 1661. Mrs. Foster was the widow of Seth Foster. One daughter, Mrs. Jane

Foster. One daughter, Mrs. Jane Delano, is living in Brooklyn, N.Y.

No. 42, 19. CHARLES COLE From Ambrose Cole, 1695.

Grand-Children living: Augustus Cole, Scituate; Mrs. Esther Reed, Milwaukee, Wis. Edward E. Cole, Boston; Frederic Cole. Scituate; Francis Cole, Texas; Miss Mary E. Waldron, Lynn; Elijah Weatherbee, Newton Lower Falls; Fanny (Weatherbee) Cole, Boston; Charles A. Litchfield, Andrew J. Litchfield, Miss Mary A. Litchfield.

No. 43, 20.IN.FORD&LEMUEL JACOBS From Michael Ford, 1778. From Capt. David Jacob, 1688.

One son of Michael Ford is now living, Rev. David Barnes Ford of Hanover. Grand-children of Lemuel Jacobs living: B. Warren Jacobs; Mrs. Adeline Payne; Rev. David B. Ford, Hanover.

No. 45, 25. TIMOTHY FOSTER From Edward Foster, 1633. One daughter, Mirs. Ellen F. James, Is now living in East Boston.

No. 46, 26. SNOW BRYANT From John Bryant, 1639. One son of Mr. Bryant is now

One son of Mr. Bryant is now living: Snow Bryant of Assinippi.

No. 47, 27. SAMUEL TURNER
From Humphrey Turner, 1633.
Children living: Miss Caroline C.
Turner; David W. Turner; Gustavus J. Turner, Sacramento, California; Mrs. Harriet Tolman; Mrs.

Maria W. Gaffield; Samil. Turner.

No. 48, 28. JOSHUA JACOB From Capt. David Jacob, 1688. Descendants not traced.

No. 49, 29. JOHN K. NASH.

From Joseph Nash, 1700.

One grandchild is now living: Mrs.

Mary L. Power.

No. 50, 30. LEMUEL CUSHING No descendants traced.

No. 51, 31. SAMUELTOLMAN From Capt. Benjamin Tolman, 1709. Grand-children living: Samuel Tolman, Hanover; Niass. Miss Anna Tolman, Hanover; Prof. Herbert C. Tolman, Nashville, Tenn.

This pew afterward owned by W.

C. Litchfield and others.

No. 52, 32. ELIJAH CLAPP From Thomas Clap, 1640. One son is living: Andrew Clapp.

No.53, 33. CUSHING O. BRIGGS From Walter Briggs, 1643. Children living: Lloyd Briggs, Boston; Mrs. Hannah B. James, Boston Mrs. Mary T. Tolman, Hanover.

No.54, 34. NATHANIEL BROOKS
From William Brooks, 1644.
Children living: Mrs. Charlotte E.
Jones; Mrs. Elvira B. Vinal, Brockton; Miss Rebecca C. Brooks; Miss
Martha W. Brooks; Prof. Wm. P.
Brooks, Amherst; Samuel J. May
Brooks, Brockton.

No.55, 35. ELIJAH BROOKS From William Brooks, 1644. Grandchildren Living: Mrs. Emma Dana Marks, Plymouth; Miss Helen Brooks Hathaway, Plymouth. No. 56, 36.

David Stetson, then Jas. P. Briggs.
(Not traced) Il From Walter Briggs, 1643.
Children living: Mrs. Ellen Ellms;
Alfred B. Briggs; Andrew J. Briggs,
Medford; Walter E. Briggs, Boston;
Albert H. Briggs, Wollaston;
Charles E. Briggs, Boston; Mrs.
Adeline B. Brown, Cohasset.

No. 57, 37. CHARLOTTE CLAPP From Thomas Clap, 1640.
Miss Clapp was the sister of Joseph Clapp, the grandfather of Joseph C. Otis.

No. 58, 38. LUCY ELLIS Grandchildren living: Nathani Phillips, Marshfield; Mrs. Grace Rogers, South Boston.

No. 59, 39. DAVID TORREY
From Lieut. James Torrey, 1640.
Children living: Mrs. Mary Robbins
Charlestown; Mrs. Vesta H. Turner,
Boston; Charles Torrey, Boston;
Everett Torrey, Charlestown; FrankIin Torrey, Carrara, Italy; Willard
Torrey.

No. 60, 40. CHARLES FOSTER From Edward Foster, 1633. Two grandchildren, Charles and Mary Foster, were recently living in or near Boston.

Old No. 2. DAVID BOWKER Probably from James Bowker, 1680. Children living: Edwin L. Bowker, Waltham; Mrs. Laura Chapman, Milwaukee, Wis.

Old No. 21. JOSEPH R. TOLMAN From Capt. Benjamin Tolman, 1709. Grandchildren living: Joseph Tolman, Maria W. Tolman, Thomas J. Tolman. The old church still stands, looking out upon the river valley. The little feet which once pattered down its aisles have found their way into many a noble and useful walk in life, where new friends and new scenes have interposed their claims and their delights.

If this little sketch was to be sent to each of the children of the old meeting-house, it would have to journey some four thousand miles to the eastward to reach one of the sons of pew 59, and westward across our own continent to sunny California to find one who "belongs" to pew 47.

Still, distance does not stifle the affections, nor does it cloud the memory, and it must often happen that the thoughts of the past claim supremacy over the thoughts of the present, and the hopes and fears, the Joys and sorrows of youth, come thronging back.

And with these thoughts must come the memory of the old church and its associations, inspiring deep emotions and loving mental tributes to "the good of times past."

It is of kindred associations that Whittier speaks in his tender poem "The Meeting," when he

says:

In the still waters needs must be Some shade of human sympathy; And here, in its accustomed place I look on memory's dearest face; The blind by sitter guesseth not What shadow haunts that vacant spot; No eyes save mine alone can see The love wherewith it welcomes me, And still, with those alone my kin, In doubt and weakness, want and sin, I bow my head, my heart I bare As when that face was living there."

Scattered through the church are many copies of "Christian Hymns" a volume published about 1851. It has been very gratifying to find some of these in their original pews, not having been transferred or taken away, although the hands which once turned their pages have long been folded in rest.

In pew 51 we find one marked: "Sally Lapham, Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, 1853." In other pews, copies marked as follows: Pew 32, Nathaniel Cushing. Pew 52, Elijah Clapp. Pew 17, John Nash. Pew 18, E.B. Turner, Few 23, Ebenezer T. Fogg. Pew 7, James N. Sparrell, Aug., 1851. Pew 46, Benj. Jacobs. Pew 53, Ellen C. Gardner, Pew 56, a copy with the names of all the sons of James P. Briggs.

In writing an article of this nature, one has no right to extol the virtues of any one distinguished son of the church, while ignoring others who are perhaps as worthy but it would seem as if no writer could fail to make men. tion of Rev. Wm.P. Tilden, the son of Luther Tilden, as one who exemplified in his life and teachings the beauty and glory of an earnest Christian life. It was in this church and in these pews that Mr. Tilden listened to the pulpit utterances of Samuel Deane and Samuel J. May, which inspired him to lift up his eyes to the hills from whence came to him the blessed sunlight of rational religion, which it was his delight to transmit to the world.

Present-day evidence of the logalty of the sons to the teachings

of the fathers is given by the following note from a recent Boston paper, under the head of "New Corporations"

"Unity Church, Amherst; William P. Brooks, President."

This is the new "college town church" of the Unitarian denomination, and the mother church here may well feel proud of her worthy son, Prof. Brooks:

When the anniversary of the dedication of the church was near at hand last fall, the suggestion was made by some one, that a service of commemoration be held, to which all the descendants of the old families should be especially invited. Such a service, carefully planned and carried out, would be one of great inspiration and value, but the sons and daughters grandsons and grand-daughters of these "ancestral pews" should count it a duty as well as a pleasure, an obligation as well as a happy privilege, to attend divine service here at any time, and for them, each and all, a welcome waits.

This little article tells of a New England church, and it seems fitting in closing to quote from a sketch of New England life. The following lines are taken from "The Middle Town of Whitefield" by Helen Marshall North. They come to us with a message of faith and hope like a tender benediction.

"The patient horses toil up

and down these hills; the farmers till the soil and reap the grain; in front of the little church each Sabbath gather the families, the matrons and maids, and the gray-headed men.

And the charm and beauty of all the living and loving, all the smiling, the greeting, all the kisses and caresses is still to be found in the old, beautiful truth, 'I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.'"

George C. Turner.

JOB RANDALL.

(Mr. Randall lived at or near the spot now occupied by the residence of Mrs. Harriet Torrey, on River St.)

> MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, - BOSTON, Dec. 13, 1898.

Dear Mr. Turner,

the following extract from Judge Sewall's diary may interest you:

"April 17, 1708.—Col. Hathorne, Mr. Corwin and I set out for Scituate, Lodged at Job Randall's. April 18, Heard Mr. James Gardener, of Marshfield."

I presume that the Job Randall here mentioned is the one whose name appears on the third page of "Historia". Again Sewall writes under date of Apr. 25, 1719, that he set out for Scituate, and "got to Mr. Randall's about 5 o'clock."

Yours very truly, Samuel A. Green.

A PHOTOGRAPH.

An excellent photograph of the Interior of the Ist Unitarian Church, showing some thirty-five of the pews, was taken several years ago by Mr. Joseph Greene of Dorchester. It is a remarkably clear picture, even showing the numbers upon the pews. It was taken from the gallery. I have recently ascertained that the negative is in existence, and I mention this for the benefit of those who may desire to "secure the shadow ere the substance fades."

G.C.T.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

Further numbers of HISTORIA will be issued if sufficient interest is shown, and it is hoped to publish articles from several persons who are well versed in local antiquarian lore.

Thanking all who have subscribed for copies of this issue, I will gladly answer inquiries from any

one interested.

George C. Turner. River St., Norwell, Mass.

ERRATA.

On page 5 of HISTORIA, No.1. (first edition) the word "rest" in the 17th line should be "rise."

Drawn and Printed on the EDISON MIMEOGRAPH

by---

CHARLES W. DORR 200 Summer Street, Rooms 64 to 68, 0

- BOSTON, MASS.



A MAGAZINE OF LOCAL HISTORY.

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NORWELL, MASSACHVSETTS.

April, 1899

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VOL1 FILLS TORIA, NO.3.

nouvell, formerly South Scituate) Mass. April, 1899.

THE QUAKER CEMETERY.

Rhoda Barker Ellis.

MEMBERS of the Society of Friends, or Quakers were at one time quite numerous in Scituate and adjoining towns.

There were two "Meeting-houses" there, both of which were

used for worship.

The larger one was moved to Pembroke, where it is in use at the present time by that society. One of these church. es, probably the one styled in the records "the Upper Meeting-house" stood near the old cemetery, which was formerly known as the Wanton and Rogers burying ground, It was a part of the Wanton farm, and the Wanton and Royers families were buried here. It is probable that it was used as a burying place as early as 1661, for in that year John Rogers, the first of that name in Marshfield died, and a year or two later the wives of Edward Wanton and John Rogers, son of first named John, died also. It was a quarter of an acre in extent.

The late Calvin T. Phillips, of South Hanover, after visiting this spot, says in the "Pioneer," — "On the South Scituate side of the North River, a mile or more above Union Bridge, in a little thicket just on the river bank, stands one solitary headstone marking the site of the old Wanton and Rogers burying ground. It is a lovely spot, where a bend in the river brings into view a long reach, both above and below.

Here beyond sight and hearing from the highway, it may indeed be said that 'all the air a solemn stillness holds'. The dirges and muffled drum-beats of Decoration Day never break the quiet of the place, nor prompt friendly hands to clear away the briers from the neglected and leaf-covered graves.

But this burial place was not always the lonely spot it now seems, for when it was used it was within the limits of the farm of Edward Wanton, one of the most enterprising as well as wealthy business men of the colony. The Wanton house and ship-yard were near by, and the river was the great highway.

In 1705, Wanton, having lived here for more than forty years, and now growing old, deeded to his son Michael, his home lot of 82 acres. Two years later we find mention of the burial place when Michael Wanton deeds back to his father Edward Wanton of Scituate and John Rogers senior of Marshfield, 'a certain piece or parcel of land containing a quarter of an acre, lying and being in Scituate, for a burying place for them, the said Wanton and Rogers, their heirs and assigns, families and posterities for ever to bury their dead in from time to time, and for no other use whatsoever. Being that parcel of land lying towards the northeast from my dwelling house, which hath been and still is used and fenced in for a bury. ing place, to continue the same breadth as it is now fenced towards the north-east until it make up the quantity of a quarter of an acre, with a footway or privilege to pass on foot from the said house to the burying place aforesaid, and back again, as there shall be occasion.

The venerable Edward Wanton was himself buried here, in 1716. The remains of the succeeding generations of the Wanton family occupy less obscure graves, two of Edward's sons having been governors

of Rhode Island, and two of his grandsons having also held that office.

It seems strange that such a careful historian as Deane should have written of the old Friends burial ground in 1831 that 'no lettered stone is seen there', when even now the headstone of Mary Webb is entire, and a part of another is in place inscribed

-ed ye 10th day
-Month - 1720 aged 19

According to the statement of old people living near, there must have been still more stones standing when Mr Deane was in Scituate. Did he never visit the place?

The inscription on the Webb

stone is

MARY WEBB ye W(if)e of EDWARD WEBB of Boston died ye 23° 8 mo 1708.

When Michael Wanton's children sold the old place in 1745, the burial place is mentioned as follows — 'And excepting also out of the aforesaid 79 acres, the burying place containing one quarter of an acre to be and remain a burying place forever for all persons whomsoever, with full egress and regress for all persons to and from said burying ground.'

We find in the Will of Thomas Rogers, son of John, second.

the following:

"It is my mind and Will that my said two sons pay all my just debts and funeral charges, and legacies aforesaid, and also to fence in the burying place that lies in Scituate, near the dwelling house that was Michael Wanton's, deceased."

There is a tradition is these Rosers families that they are descended from the Martyr John Rogers, who was burned at the stake in Smithfield, England, in 1555. No traces, however have yet been found to verify this. nor can any record of the Martyr's family be found. John Rogers (son of first John) to whom we refer in connection with Edward Wanton and the burial place, was born in England and came with his father to this country. He married Rho. da daughter of Elder Thomas King. After her death, he married a second, and again a third time, leaving seven children.

The stub of a stone now standing in the old cemetery is at the grave of Judah Butler, son of Johanna Butler, who was a daughter of John Rogers, second. Her husband was Judah Butler of Falmouth.

Surely the least we can do is to preserve this spot sacred, and save it from oblivion, marking it in some suitable manner in memory of the brave men and women who helped build for us the foundations upon which the life and liberties of

this great nation stand today.

We hope the time is not far off when these memorials of the past will be cherished by their descendants, and saved from destruction at the hands of vandals and curiosity hunters.

THE WANTON-ROGERS BURYING GROUND TODAY.

The present condition of the cemetery as observed by a visitor to the spot on March 2.B. is little different from that of the past few years. The Mary Webb stone stands leaning against a stump and little Judah Butler's grave is still marked by the fragment referred to in Miss Ellis' article. There are several stubs of stones, and these are probab. ly in their original positions. This is cause for congratulation, for they preserve the exact location of this little cemetery which has suffered such grieyous wrongs. The adjoining land, the owners of which have at times claimed the title to the cemetery, has changed hands twice during the last few years, and the farm of which this land is now a part is soon to be sold again at public auction. Let us hope that no transfers of the neighboring lands will in any way work injury to the place of interment of these prominent early settlers, for it is cruel injustice to their memory if some of their descen dants do not take measures to protect this spot. It should be marked by a tablet or monument, for, one fourth mile from the nearest house, one half mile from the nearest highway, it is rarely visited and known to but few. This number of HISTORIA brings it into the knowledge of the general public again, and temporary interest will thus be aroused. Must it be again forgotten? G. C.T.

BAPTISMS BY REV. WILLIAM WETHERELL the first Pastor of the South or Second Church in Scit. uate, which is now the First Unitarian Church, Norwell. The earliest records in the pastors own handwriting give his name as Wetherell. Mr. Deane writes the name With. erell in almost every instance. Perhaps the pastor changed the "e" to "i" in his later writings. The curious arrangement of dates is on account of the fact that the English nation did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1752, therefore in 1645 the new year began with March 25. These baptisms are published for the first time.

A Catalogue of the names of all such as have been baptized by Guililmo Wetherell, Pastor to ye Church, since his election into office in Septbre, 1645.

Anno 1645. Sarah ye daughter of Will Wetherell) Septbr Hopestill ye sonn of Elisha Besby ve 7. Thomas ye soon of Thomas King / Deborah ye daughter of George Willard Daniel ye sonne } of George Willard (Hannah ye daughter of WI Brook) Joseph, Benjamin, Thomas, sons of Robt Studson Sept 14. Oct.5 Joshua ye sonn of Geo. Willard Novemb 2. Joanna ye daughter of Ephraim Kempton .. 9. Sarah, Joseph, Hanna, ye children of WII Randall John ye sonn of Elisha Besty Samuel ye son of Resolved White Decemb 21. March 15. Redecca ye daughter of Tho Lappham Sarah ye " of John Stockbridge) Anno 1646 1646. Nathaniel ye sonne of Will Brook March 29. Comfort ? ye son and daughter of Thomas Start | June 7. Elizabethi Hanna ye daughter of Widdow Hatch 4/4. June 21. Elizabeth S ve daughters of Gilbert Brook I Samuel ye son of Rob = Studson July 12. Lydia ye daughter of George Sutton Sept. 13. Hanna ye daughter of William Wetherell Febr 28. William ye sonne of James Torry. March 21. 1647 1647. Mary and William ye children of Wilm Parker

May 16.

William ye sonn of James Adams Martha ye daughter of William Parker Hesther ye daughter of John Stockbridge Resolved ye sonn of Resolved White Patience ye daughter of Ephraim Kempton Mary daughter of William Brook William ye son of William Randall Daniel ye sonn of Thomas King 1648. Nathaniel ye sonn of Abraham Prebble John ye sonn of Robt Studson Mary ye daughter of Elisha Besby	May 23. Junz 13. July 11. Novemb 14. Novemb 21. Novemb 28. Jan 2. Febr 13. 1648. Apr 9. May 7. Sept 10.
Joseph ye sonn of Thomas Lappham	Sept 24.
Sarah ye daughter of George Sutton	Decemb 3.
	1649.
1649.	
Joseph ye sonn of James Torry	March 25.
Joseph ye sonn of Richard Garret Ephraim ye sonn of Ephraim Kempton	Apr 1.
Ephraim ye sonn of Ephraim Kempton	Apr 8.
Jonathan } ye sonns of John Turner, Senior	May
Jonathan } ye sonns of John Turner, Senior Joseph } Patience daughter of William Parker Anna ye daughter of James Adams Anna ye daughter of Resolved White	•
Anna daughter of William Parker	May 6.
Anna ye daughter of James Adams	May 20.
Anna ye daughter of Resolved White Mary ye daughter of Gilbert Brook	June 10.
Elizabeth ye daughter of Thomas Courtis	July 15.
John ye sonn of James Baits	Aug 19. October 7.
Margaret ye daughter of George Bastow	Febr 24.
1650.	1650.
Naomi ye daughter of Richard Sylvester John ye sonne of William Randall	Apr 14. Apr 28.
Eunice ye daughter of Robt Studson	May 19.
Sarah the daughter of Thomas King }	
Sarah ve daughter of Wilm Brook	May 26.
Sarah ye daughter of Wilm Brook Rachel ye daughter of Gilbert Brook	July 7.
Deborah ye daughter of William Barstow	Aug 18.
Sarah ye daughter of George Sutton	Sept 15.
Nathaniel ye sonne of Mr. Joseph Tilden	Sept 29.
Nathaniel ye sonne of Mr. Joseph Tilden Ezekiell ye son of John Turner, senior	January 19.
Manasseh ye sonne of Ephraim Kempton	Febr 9.
Hannah ye daughter of Walter Hatch	Mar 23.
John, Hannah, the children of John Bryant Sarah, Mary.	Mar 23.
To be continued in JUNE HISTORIA.	

ANOTHER OF THE WILSON HILL GRAVESTONES FOUND.

This is the Cornelius BRIGGS stone.

Wilson Hill, near the Scituate line, was the site of the meeting-house of the Second Church in Scituate, and the church began a burying-ground here in 1644. The society removed to a new location in 1680, and in time the little burying ground became neglected, and early in the present century vandal hands destroyed all traces of the cemetery, making the spot a level field. In April, 1898, one of the old grave-stones was found in Scituate under an old cornbarn.

A full account of the search for and finding of this relic was given in HISTORIA, No.1, so we will here simply give the inscription upon it, which is

Here Lyes Ye Body of THOMAS KING who died September 24 1691 aged about 78 years.

The recent discovery of the Briggs stone was made through the efforts of Mrs. Phebe Turner and Mr. Edward W. Humphrey, aided by information furnished by Mr. John Turner.

Mr. Turner, when a young man, was one day gunning in the vicinity of Wilson Hill, and came across a fragment of a gravestone.

Surprised at the circumstance he inquired on reaching home,

of his father, Hon. Samuel A. Turner, why such a stone should be in that vicinity. Mr Turner, senior, was much interested, and the stone was removed to the Turner homestead but the many decades since then had almost caused it to be entirely forgotten by those who knew of it. One day last February, Mr. Turner mentioned it in conversation with the publisher of HISTORIA and search was at once made, finally resulting in success.

The inscription is imperfect, as the stone is only an uneven fragment. It is as follows:

CORNELIUS BRIG(GS) Dec October & 20 In The 47th Year OF HIS AGE, 1694.

An Ensign in King Philip's War, the common ancestor of the Briggs ship-builders one of whom built the famous ship "Co: lumbia? the first yessel to visit the north-west coast of our country the ship from which the Columbia River takes its name; the first American vessel to circumnavigate the globe; still "the frail memorial erected nigh" proved powerless "his bones from insult to protect," and the mortal remains of this one, and many more of Scituate's first settlers, lie in unmarked graves.

Rev. Samuel Deane says of this burying-ground "Here were buried the earliest generations of the Cushings, the Kings, the Torreys, the Hatchs,

the Robinsons, with Mr. With-

erell, their first pastor.

Duxbury's people searched for and found Myles Standish's grave. Will the descendants of Norwell's first settlers allow the Wilson Hill yard to go forever unmarked?

THE DARK DAY.

"Twas on a May-day of the far

Seventeen hundred eighty, that therefull, Over the bloom and sweet life of the Spring, Over the fresh earth and the heaven of hoon.

A horror of great darkness like the night In day of which the Norland sages tell, The Twilight of the Gods. The low-hung sky

Was black with ominous clouds."

- Whittier.

The "dark day" means in New England history, May 19, 1790, when fowls went to roost at midday, and candles were lighted in the houses.

In two different ways the memory of this phenomenal manifestation has been preserved in this

vicinity.

A family tradition, the truth of which no one has any reason to doubt, says that the Samuel Oakman house (now the residence of Wm.L.Cushing) just over the river in Marshfield, was "raised" upon that day.

In the old Foster house (torn down in 1898) lived at that time Mr. John Foster, and this entry from his family Bible, now in the possession of his great -

grandson, Charles F. Foster of Chester, Pa., is interesting:

"May the 19day 1780, a day of darknes & the following Night

also Remarcable so."

It is said that the obscuration did not begin tintil about ten in the forenoon, so who knows but that the sturdy early risers of that time had the Oakman house well framed and securely "trunnelled" at that hour.

Very likely IVIn Foster was at the raising, and perhaps on the rapid approach of darkness he hastened home across the ferry or in his own boat and climbed the long hill wondering all the time what the gathering blackness meant.

Frightened? No! There may be persons who believe that the early Fosters were not men of stalwartness and courage, but the writer is not one of them.

G.C.T.

REV. SAMUEL DEANE,

in his preface to the family sketches in his history, said

Though many of the families in our catalogue cannot exhibit a line of illustrious names, yet they are such as partook in the perils of founding and defending this country, in times when courage, constancy and patience were indeed common virtues but not the less admirable to us for being common at that time. There needs be no apology for attempting to preserve the genealogies of

those families who occupied these hills in those early times; it is all the nobility we have; and it is nobility enough, when we can trace our descent from the fathers of New England.

. Few subjects are more agreeable than that of contemplating the characters of the men who first broke the soil which we now cultivate, and few things can more excite the imagination than to muse upon the spot where they lighted their domestic fires, or to walk over the green turf that covers their remains.

ERRATA.

HISTORIA is to paged consecutively, therefore Number 2 should begin with Page 9. On Page 10 two errors occur—In first column, JOHN HAYDEN should be JOSEPH HAYDEN, and in second column, line 30, the word "brother" should be "father." We hope readers will make these corrections in their own copies.

"JOHN ROGERS

OF

MARSHFIELD,

and some of his descendants."

By Josiah H. Drummond.

8 vo. 195 pages. Price \$ 1.00

Orders sent in care of HISTORIA will be promptly forwarded.

PUBLISHER'S COLUMN

A few orders have been received for copies of HISTORIA Number One and Number Two. I shall order a new edition of each of these just as soon as enough orders are received to warrant the expense.

It may be well to state here that these numbers contained the articles "THE OLD CEMETERY." (with inscriptions, 1689-1891.) "THE KING STONE" and "ANCESTRAL PEWS."

I feel justified in asking in behalf of HISTORIA, the support of all persons interested in the history of this section.

HISTORIA is not the product of any far-sighted plan or scheme, therefore it needs the subscriptions of many more persons to insure its continuance.

Personally, I am glad that I have given so much time to this work, as it seems to me a very important one.

Hoping to receive many new subscriptions, I remain, Yours Respectfully.

GEORGE C. TURNER.

River St., Norwell, Mass.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S SCITUATE ANCESTOR. FIRST PARISH CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS.

VOL.1.

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No. 4.



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VOL.1. FIISTORIA. No.4.

Norwell, (formerly South, Scituate), Mass., June, 1899.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S SCITUATE ANCESTOR

AT this time while the fad for historical and genealogical research is at its height, while so many people are endeavoring to establish the proof that their ancestors fought in the Revolution or came over in the Mayflower; and every bit of history is being eagerly soughtout and preserved, it may not be amiss to call attention to the fact that one of the ancestors of the great War President, Abraham Lincoln, was at one time a resident of Scituate, and that President Lincoln was descended from the Lincolns of the Old Colony, It is only quite recently that the descent was satisfactorily traced, but the fact now seems settled Mir. Shackford and the Histury of Hingham assert it, and Mr. John T. Morse in his "Life of Lincoln" accepts it. Nicolay and Hay also consider it probable.

Samuel Lincoln, of Hingham, was the first of the line in America, and it is through his son Mordecai that Scituate can claim a part of the honor. The History of Hingham says: "Mordecai Lincoln, the son of Samuel, was born in Hingham, June 14, 1657. He married for his first wife Sarah Jones, day of Abraham

and Sarah (Whitman) Jones of Hull. His second wife was the widow Mary Gannett, probably of Scituate. He died suddenly Nov. 1727, in his 71 year."

His son Mordecai born Abril 24, 1686 inherited 110 pounds and removed to Monmouth County, New Jersey and afterwards to Pennsylvania. His son John, in turn, pushed south into Virginia, and settled in Augusta County, in that part which was later set off as Rock ingham County.

This John had five sons, John, Thomas, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Abraham settled in North Carolina and married. His family were neighbors of and intimate with the Boones, and according to Nicolay and Hay it was this intimacy that probably caused him to give up his home in North Carolina and remove to Kentucky.

He was a man of average means and entered several valuable tracts of public land in that state, which was at the time being rapidly settled by men from Virginia and Carolina. He did not live long to enjoy the possession of his new found home, being killed by

a lurking Indian while at work in a field near his cabin.

He left three sons, Mordecai, Josiah and Thomas the father of President Lincoln.

Thomas was a carpenter by trade - a rolling stone by choice. After changing his residence several times within the borders of Kentucky, he crossed over into Indiana, and later settled in Illinois. Tersely written, the line of descent is —

- I. Samuel, of England and Hingham.
- 2. Mordecal, of Scituate.
- 3. Mordecai, of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.
- 4. John, of Virginia.
- 5. Abraham, of North Carolina and Kentucky.
- 6. Thomas, of KentuckyIndiana and Illinois.
- 7. Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States.

A historian remarks that through six successive generations all save one were pioneers in the settlement of new countries. Oddly enough, that one exception is the subject of our sketch, Mordecai, of Scituate.

It almost seems as if the Nomadic instincts of the Israelites were inherited by this branch of the Lincoln family along with the fondness for Abraham as a first name. At least they displayed the Anglo-Saxon love of land and love of wandering in a very marked degree, for we find them perpetually pulling up stakes and moving on to newer lands, the type of men who have made our country what it is today.

It is also interesting to note that while bit by bit the Lincolns became more illiterate, and dropped lower in the social scale as they traversed wilderness and prairie in search of home and fortune, that at last there could come from such degenerate stock a son who would be called the noblest in the land. And it argues well for the pristine generations of the Old Colony that the good could at last assert itself.

But to return to the subject of our sketch. Deane says Mordecai settled at Bound Brook Bridge in 1700, and erected mills. Bigelow's History of Cohasset says that he erected iron works about 1703, at Bound Brook, where Turtle Island is formed by the divided and reunited stream. Bound Brook, by the way, is an historic little stream, as it was for some time a part of the boundary between the Plymouth and the Mass. Bay Colonies. To this day after the lapse of nearly two hundred years the mills on the old site are known as the Lincoln Mills.

It is to be regretted that. Deane, writing 1830, could not have given us a more definite

account of the Lincolns of Scituate. From the general accuracy of his work, anything that he might have discovered at that time would have been of great interest and value, and he would undoubtedly have done so could he have known that somewhere in the great West was growing up a President of the United States, whose ancestry would be traced back to these same Lincolns.

One bit of information, that Mordecai, Jr., married a daughter of Rev. Nathaniel Eells, is interesting to the members of the South Parish

It would also be interesting to know whether the Abraham Lincoln whom Briggs' History of Ship-Building on North River speaks of as part owner of the sch. "Three Friends" in 1797 was a descendant of this branch or not. He certainly has one of the characteristic fore names of the family.

The lapse of time and the paucity of written matter prevents us from knowing what sort of man this Mordecai Lincoln was. But the fact that he established saw and grist mills and that he was the owner of iron works shows that he was a very useful man in his day and generation. A generation by the way that depended on the few saw mills

for boards with which to build their houses, on the scattered grist mills for the very bread that they ate, and that prized a bit of iron as highly as we of this generation prize gold and silver. He was also possessed of a reasonable amount of wealth as wealth was considered then, his will showing him to have been a man of considerable means.

As to his moral character and the reputation he bore we have no means of knowing there are none left to tell his virtues: none to tell his faults. hand of time has smoothed away almost all the traces that he ever existed, and the grass has for hearly two centuries grown over his last resting place in Groveland cemetery, North Scituate, But it need not be said that he lived in vain, for who knows but what some of the strongest and best qualities of President Lincoln were inherited from his Scituate ancestor.

Joseph Foster Merritt.

"Time, what an empty vapor 'tis;
And days how swift they are—
Swift as an Indian arrow
Fly on like a shooting-star;
The present moment's just at hand.
Then slides away in haste,
So that we never can say they're
ours
But only mourn the past."

-Abraham Lincoln.

PARISH CEMETERY THE FIRST

SMTERING at the southern gateway of the First Parish Cemetery at Norwell Centre, the visitor's attention is at once attracted by a marble gravestone bearing the sculptured image of

ship upon the stocks

This is erected at the grave of Luther Tilden, one of the old North River ship-builders. Seeming to speak of an immortal voyage, it inspires hopeful uplifting thoughts and gives a sacred charm to the spot. The inscription upon it is

LUTHER TILDEN Died Mar 6 1857 Ae 80 PHILENDA BROOKS his wife (1) Died Mar 7, 1837 Ae 58. SARAH BENSON his 2nd wife died Jan 13, 1862. Ac. 67

Mr. Tilden's first wife was the daughter of Capt. William Brooks. who lived on the place now known as Riverdale Farm.

Their second son was Rev. VVIIliam Phillips Tilden, in whose life and ministry the people of Norwell teel such an honorable pride, and it is from his autobiography that we quote these lines;

. - - - "The next spring, March 7 1837, my dear mother died. She had been slowly declining for two or three years. But oh; she was so good and true, so unselfish and loving, it was hard to let her go, even to Heaven! She was a sweet soul, - everything to father, everything to her children.

In her days of health, she was bright, full of humor and Brooks wit the life of company, and making all around her happy.

She knew, as every true wife and mother knows, how much she was needed, and longed to stay. She had suffered so much and so long that the suffering had impressed itself upon her face. But when the angel of death had gently taken the spirit out of the sick form, and touched the wan cheeks with his celestial fingers, the old sweet look came back again.

She was young and fair once more, and a sweet smile rested on the dear face. real comfort to look upon her. It was not death. It was rest in a higher life." - .

· · · · · 'March 6.1857, my father died at South Scituate. He was eighty years old the January before. He was a good father, a kind husband, a dear lover of his home. · · · · · Dear, precious father, peace to thy risen spirit."

Near the Tilden stone are the graves of Laban and Betsey Souther, with these Inscriptions

To the Memory
of Mrs. Betsey
wife of Mc Laban
Souther Died Nov
9, 1832
aged 71 years

To the Memory
of Mr. Laban
Souther, Died
Dec 19, 1840
aged 78 years.

Several years ago, a Minnesota gentleman returned from a visit to this cemetery with the story of a remarkably interesting inscription which he had found, and read from his notes these quaint and deeply pathetic lines which are to be found upon the Mary Bryant stone near the Delano tomb.

HERE LYES YE BODY OF MRS MARY BRIANT WIFE OF MR THOMAS BRIANT WHO DYED NOVEMBER THE 30TH 1724 & IN HAR ARMS DOTH

(4) LYE YE CORPS OF TWO
LUYELY BABES BORN OF HAR
8 DAYS BEFORE HAR DEATH
ONE A SON NATHANIEL DYED YE DAY
BEFORE HAR A DAUGHTR NAMED
HANNAH DYED A FEW OURS AFTER HAR.

Near at hand are four other Bryant stones, one being that of Rev Lemuel Bryant of Quincy. It was Mr. Bryant who vexed Rev. Nathaniel Eells when preaching for him one Sunday by indulging in certain advanced "liberal speculations" in a Sermon upon the text "all our righteousnesses are filthy rags." Mr. Eells said "Alas! Sir, you have undone today all that I have been doing for forty years." Mr. Bryant made a graceful reply. "Sir, you do me too much honor, in saying, that I could undo in one sermon the labors of your long and useful life."

In continuing with the inscriptions we will say that all those appearing in this chapter are taken from that section of the yard which lies southerly and southeasterly from the Delano tomb enclosure, excepting only the Damon stones, which are given because of their connection with Rev. Nath! Eells.

(5) Here lyes buried the body of THOMAS BRIANT ESQ WHO departed this life Decr 18th 1748. Aetatis 74.

Here lays Interred the body of the Revol Mr. Lemuel Bryant
(6) who departed this life October the Fot 1754.
Aetatis 32 years.

(Fragment)

- HO DIED

(7) -- IRY THE 8th

1757

in the 6 year

of his age.

HERE lyes the body of Rhoda Bryant Daughter of (8) Mr. Peieg & Mrs Mary Bryant who died July ye. 30 th, 1752 Actatis 3 years.

(9) Deacon John James who died September the 34,1764, in the 56 year of his age.

Here lyes the body of Mrs
(ii) Sarah James wife of Mr. John
James June who died September
the 25th 1761 aged 29 years.

Here Iyes the body of John James Son of Mir John James Juhr

(II) and Mrs Sarah James who died October the 15th 1761, aged 2 year and 2 months.

(Nearly obliterated)

Erected in memory of Deach (i2) John James who died Oct by the 19th, 1775 in the 45th year of his age.

Here lyes ye body of Hannah ye daugh of Deac" John

(3) James & Hannah his wite. She died Decor ye 30th 1782 in ye 15th year of her age

In memory of Mrs

(14) Hannah James wife of
Deac^o John James who died
Nov 17, A.D 1816, aet 77 years.

The Nichols monument with its brief inscriptions "TAKEN PRISONER" and "KILLED AT PETERSBURGH" tells the story of a South Scituate mother who gave two of her boys to her country.

B. NICHOLS

BENJ NICHOLS 1808-1887 SOPHRONIA NICHOLS 1815-1895

"She has gone to heaven before us But she turns and waves her hand Pointing to the glories o'er us In that happy, happy land."

(i5) Children. I

Elias O. 1839 TAKEN PRISONER 1864. Addison F. 1843 Killed at Petersburgh 1864. Alfred 1852 – 1881 Mary E. his wife, died 1875

ELIAS PINCIN 1789 - 1874. BETSEY C. his wife 1797 - 1881.

Next we will record a stone erected above a grave sacred to all who care for the South Parish Church, and we earnestly advise all who read this to read the very excellent account of IMr. Eells in Deane's History, pages 197—201, believing that they will get a great deal of satisfaction from this study of his life.

HERÉ LIES THE BODY
OF YE REVP NATH EEILS
PASTOR OF THE SECOND CHURCH
OF CHRIST IN SCITUATE
(19) Who dyed August ye 25th
(19) 1750 in the 73d year of his
age and in ye 47th of his

(19)1750 in the 73d year of his age and in ye 47th of his Ministry.

Blassed are the dead which die in ye Lord.

Here lyes the body of Mrs Hannah Eeils the wife of Rev⁴ Mr Hathaniel (17) Eeils who died May ye 2⁴ 1754 aged 75 years.
Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

Mr. Eells' claughter Anna Lenthal married Zechariah Damon 1748 and from her have descended the Damons of Hanover who trace their line hack te Eells Damon son of Zechariah. Because of these facts we give the inscriptions upon four Damon stones which stand to the north of the E. Bailey Turner lot.

These are not erected at the graves of the persons named above; but they must have been of the same

family and closely related, as the little girl was named Anna Linthal.

Here lyes the body of MKs

(18) Mehitable Damon wife of Mr. Zechariah Damon who died October 3d aged 82.

Here lyes the body of Mr. Zechariah Damon Who died June the 6th, 1764 in the 78th year of his age

In memory of Mrs.
Desire Damon wife of
Mr Calvin Damon who
died Febry 14th 1789
in the 25th year of her age.

Anna Linthal Damon daughter of Mr Calvin and Mrs Desire Damon who died Octor ye 14th 1787 in the 7th month of her age.

In Memory

At the southern boundary of the yard are two tombs inscribed as follows:

CHARLES COLE

S.A. TURNER 1846 W. H. TILDEN

In the Turner-Tilden temb enclosure is the following stone which is probably a cenetaph.

Sacred to the Memory of (22) Capt. Charles H Turner Master of the brig Fanny of Boston.

Born at Scituate Nov 21, 1790. Died at Matanzas in the Island of Cuba, Aug 26, 1821. aet 31 years.

Near the grave of Rev. Nath Eells are three Cushing stones lettered as follows.

Here lyes interred the body of (23) Deacon Joseph Cushing who dyed (23) Decembrye 12th 1760 and in the 84th year of his age.

Here lies Interred ye body of Juseph Cushing Esquir (24) who departed this life January the 2^g, 1767 & in ye 56 year of his age.

Mr Joseph Cushing ye Third, died January the 8th, 1766 & in the 33d year of his age

Here Iyes buried the body (26) of Dean George King who died June the 16th 1754 in the 72 year of his age

Mrs Deborah King wife of Dean George King who dyed May 175, 1758, & in ye 73d year of her age.

To be continued in August - HISTORIA -

BAPTISMS BY REV. WILLIAM WETHERELL. the first pastor of the South or Second Church in Scituate. (continued from April HISTORIA)

1651. Richard ye sonne of James Adams) Martha ye daughter of Elisha Besby J

Mary } ye daughters of Henry Adverd

Sarah)
Damaris ye daughter of James Torry
John the sonn of Richard Garrett
Martha ye daughter of John Bryant
Lois ye daughter of Robt Studson

Apr 27. June 29

Novemb 2 Novemb 30 March 7 March 21

(To be continued in August HISTORIA, two pages of which will be devoted to these records.)

A LETTER WRITTEN BY SAMUEL DEANE IN 1821.

(The dignified, courteous language of this letter makes its preservation desirable. The delicate compliment to woman's benevolent disposition is an especially graceful sentiment. The cloak referred to was a surplice, or black gown.)

Scituate, Jan. 134 1821.

Dear Madam:

I desire to present my grateful acknowledgements to you and the other ladies who have so kindly contributed to my comfort by enabling me to purchase a Cloak. I accept your bounty not only as an expression of your regard to the comfort of your Pastor, but also to his external appearance, a matter not to be wholly disregarded. And still more do I value your bounty because it is another happy token of those be nevolent affections which have forever been most lively in the female heart.

While you are thus careful for my external comfort and appearance, you will give a new impulse to my exertions to acquire those mental qualifications by which alone I can repay your kindness, by becoming more useful to you in my profession.

I have no wish so dear, as that of being able to devote myself more fully to your service, and that of my people.

Your obliged and affectionate pastor.

Samuel Deane.

To Mrs. Evelina Bowker, Scituate.

(Now in the possession of her daughter, Mrs. Eveline Torrey.)

Publisher's Columns

It seems as if HISTORIA deserved a generous support. It has published and will publish many facts, which, but for its aid, would go into oblivion. I do not like to appeal for support but the financial problem is ever present, and I feel justified in asking for prompt remittances from those who are in arrears and continued support from those who have helped.

I hope to publish the new edition of No.1, in July, and would welcome subscriptions to that end. No.2, I cannot republish until more order copies. Will not some son or daughter of the old church help in this undertaking?

No. 5, to be published in August, will contain a beautiful sketch of Rev. Samuel J. May's South Scituate ministry, by Miss Susan C. Damon, entitled "HAPPY AND HELPFUL MEMORIES."

Respectfully,

GEORGE C. TURNER

Riverdale Farm. Norwell, Mass.



A MAGAZINE OF LOCAL HISTORY

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MORWELL MASSACHUSETTS

AUGUST, 1899.

\$1.00 PER YEAR OF SIX ISSUES~



VOL.1. FI ISTORIA NO.5.

norwell (formerly Nouth Scituate) Mass., August, 1899.

HAPPY AND HELPFUL MEMORIES.

SUSAN C. DAMON.

WES-Happy because Help-Iful, and Helpful because Happy - for surely such has

Happy – for surely such has been the memory of Rev. Samuel J. May, whose beaming face, so radiant with the true Christ-like spirit of helpful love cast its inspiring light on my young life, when he first came to the Unitarian Church in South Scituate, in 1836.

A new life seemed opened to me and all others through his uplifting services in the Church, and his Christian sympathy and true friendship in our homes; that warm and full hand grasp and genial smile penetrated far deeper the hidden life of every soul than volumes of high-sounding words.

His church services were very impressive, there was such a depth of true, honest, untiring zeal in the Master's cause. It was not the form of religion he advocated, but the real spirit.

He believed most thoroughly in baptism, but believed that one drop of pure water was as effectual as an ocean. However, if any one thought differently he acceded to their wish-

es, and when Miss Mary Merritt thought immersion the only true baptism, he gave her baptism in the North River.

One of his first efforts was to establish a Sunday School, and in a very short time the two rows of pews in the center of the church were filled with eager, upturned faces, to catch the welcome, radiant smile of his face, and with close attention listen to the very impressive lesson given by story, or bible truth, in the opening exercises.

And rich indeed was the blessing to everychild and youth who entered there. One of his most impressive lessons was that of "Overcoming Evil with Good," and he gave to the Library six volumes of a book entitled "A Kiss for a Blow," so anxious was he that every child should read it.

This was the spirit he was constantly carrying out in his whole life. I once heard him tell of his experience when travelling in New Hampshire on a lecture tour. He was obliged to ride through a long

piece of woods which had a great reputation for robbers. Just as he was about halfway through, a very rough-looking man rushed from a thicket toward his horse's head. Mr. Way, reining in his horse, said "Well, sir! You seem to be going my way. I am alone, jump In: shall be happy to have your company." - Rather amazed, the man got in, and was soon listening to Mr. May's pleasant and interesting stories. first the man was very reticent but finally quite sociable, and when the village was reached he said,"I will now leave you," and giving his hand a warm clasp as he left the carriage said, "You can never know the great benefit you have done me." Mr. May had good reason to believe that the man's evil intentions had been overcome by his kindness.

The same spirit was manifest in his parish life. One gentleman was so opposed to him on account of his great earnestness in the temperance cause that he would not go with his family to church, so Mr. Way would atways take pains to send him word when he was to exchange that he might then have the

privilege of attending.

Mr. May aroused the whole town—which was then a very extensive township— in the cause of Temperance. He formed a company of five hundred children and youth into a "Cold Water Army" under the

pledge:

"So here we pledge perpetual hate To all that can intoxicate."

This was printed on white satin ribbon bearing a beautiful design, and each one wore one of these as a badge. Then we had a large number of banners of various designs, and with very impressive mottoes. — On one I remember was a fine picture of a sheaf of grain and bunch of grapes with the mottoes, "If you eat us, we are food." "If you drink us, we are poison."

With these banners waving over the heads of the five hundred children—the drum corps ahead followed by Wir May, and the children singing their temperance songs—the Army, as it marched through the town, presented an inspiring spectacle, and the town was completely converted, the rum shops being soon closed, with a single

exception.

This he finally captured, and resolved to have a public execution of this last enemy. He arranged for a picnic in a grove owned by Mr. Samuel Hatch, procured the liquors from the man's shop and summoned his little army. We went in full ranks and were led by Mr. May to the top of a small hill, with banners waving and drums beating.

After a short address, he led us in singing, and then with his own hand took an axe and beat in the head of

each liquor barrel. As the contents flowed out on the earth such hurrahs and shouts went up as only boys and girls can

give.

Mr. May's example and earnest words made such an impression that many who came under his influence never after tasted liquors of any kind, and when they became members of the Church refused the wine when offered at the Lord's Supper. In his own church he instituted the use of unfermented wine.

Well do I remember his active service in the Anti-Slavery cause, the deep impression he made of the awful iniquity of the entire system. He invited the Misses Sarah and Angelina Grimke to his home They were very dark and having been reared in slavery could neither read nor vvrite, but they gave most eloquent Anti Slavery lectures not only in his own church, but in the surrounding towns; and this. with his own inspired utterances, exerted a decided Anti Slavery influence in the whole community.

He was much opposed to War, and formed a Peace Society, whose influence was widely felt. The Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of Man were the central, practical and all inspiring principles and spirit of his ministry and life. These he labored for—prayed for—and these he

practised in every hour of his life.

Mr. May was a very devoted advocate of Education. Through his instrumentality several bright young ladies in his Parish were persuaded to go to the Normal School and become teachers, and eminently useful they proved themsal-

ves in their calling.

He was the Chairman of the School Committee of Scituate through nearly, if not all, his ministry there, and his influence in the District School is beyond estimation. A visit from a Committee Man, at that time, was an event of general dread to every scholar, but not so in regard to Mr. May. His presence was most welcome, and always a delight and inspiration to all. That genial, happy smile, his interest in the dullest as well as the brightest won all hearts and caused all to put forth their best efforts in the pursuit of thorough education.

Andso, too, his visits in all the families of his Parish.— Always a most delightful welcome guest. No form or ceremony for him, but simple courtesy and the hearty welcome was to him the only desirable condition of a happy visit. Every home was his

home, all one family.

He often visited two schools in one day; and frequently he visited the school at Ridge Hill in the forenoon, and wishing to

visit the one in our District in the afternoon, would come in just as we had finished dinner, and as if he had just arrived home, sit himself down at the disorderly table, would sav—"Now, Mrs. Damon, I wish a little dinner; don't make any changes, only give me something to eat, for I want to get into School about the time it commences." And as it commenced at one oclock there was not much time for ceremony.

And so, that great, grand soul was always a most welcome guest, even in the most humble dwelling of Scituate. He did not visit the outside of a friend or foe, though clothed with the most costly trappings that money can furnish or skill devise, but the soul of sorrow or joy, wifin grief, to give hope and comfort,—if in joy, to direct to the real fountain of lasting peace and blessedness—thus making every home a real home of beatific life.

His six years of ministry in Scituate was one of the greatest blessings that Town ever enjoyed; his whole spirit and life came nearer the perfect pattern in Christ, than anyone it has ever been the privilege of your writer to enjoy.

His last sermon as Minister of the Society was preached Oct. 2nd. 1842. His text, from Philippians, 1st chap, 27th verse, "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of

Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."

In reverence of that Sacred life
That filled all hearts with love,
But now has joined the Angel band
In peace and joy above—

We'll form anew a purpose strong, His spirit to possess; Of love for Man's great brotherhood, And by love's service—bless.

ORDER OF SERVICES atthe INSTALLATION

of REV. SAMUEL J. MAY at Scituate, October 26th, 1836.

I. Anthem.

II. Introductory Prayer.
By Rev.Charles Brooks of Hingham.

III. Selections from Scripture.By Rev. Joseph Angier, of New Bedford.

IV. Hymn, Selected.
Oh! God, whose presence glows
in all.

V. Sermon.

By Rev.Convers Francis of Watertown.

VI. Prayer of Installation.

By Rev. Josian Moore of Duxbury.

VII. Hymn, Original.

By a member of the society.

O. thou, whose chariot is the wind

VIII. Charge, By Rev. James Kendall, D. D., of Plymouth.

IX. Right Hand of Fellowship.

By Rev. Edmund Q. Sewall, of
Scituate.

X. Address to the Society.

By Rev. Nathaniel Hall, of Dorchester.

XI. Concluding Prayer. By Rev. Harrison G. O. Phipps, of Cohasset.

XII. Anthem.

XIII. Benediction.

BAPTISMS BY REV. WILLIAM WETHERELL ... (The first pastor of the South or Second Church, Scituate.) Continued from June HISTORIA.

Experience ye daughter of Henry Adverd Jeremiah ye son of Jeremy Burroughs Miriam ye daughter of William Brooks John ye sonne of Thomas King Anna I ye daughters of Richard Courtis Elizabeth ye daughter of Resolved White Phebe ye daughter of Gilbert Brooke Mary ye daughter of Will Hatch I William ye sonne of Will Bastow J Elizabeth ye daughter of Will Randall John ye sonne of Mic Joseph Tilden Lydia ye daughter of John Turner Senior 1653.

John ye sonne of Humphrey Johnson

Georgé ye sonne of Georgé Bastow (deceased az Cambridge)
Elizabeth ye daughter of Geo Sutton
Samuell ye sonne of Walter Hatch
Mary ye daughter of James Adams
John ye sonne of Richard Courtis
Robert ye sonne of Rob't Studson
Samuel ye sonne of John Bryant
Thomas ye sonne of Thomas Robinson
John ye sonne of Jeremy Burrouges
Phoebe ye daughter of William Hatch

Hesther ye daughter of Richard Sylvester Nathanell ye sonn of Richard Garrett Jonathan ye sonne of James Torry Ruth ye daughter of Ephr Kempton. Jusiah ye sonne of Resolved White John ye sonne of John Turner Elisha ye sonne of Elisha Besbye J

1652.

Apr 18 May 23

June 6 June 27

July 4

Sept br 5

Octob 3
Octob 7

Jan 2 Febr 20 1653

May 4th June 12

Aug 28 Jan 1 Febr 5 Febr 28

Febr 20 Mar 5

Mar 19 1654.

Mar 26 May 1 Senthr 24

Octob 29

Septbr24

Repense ye drughter of Mr. Joseph Tilder	Febr 25
Rebecca ye daughter of Mr. Joseph Tilden Job ye sonne of Wm Randall	
Job ye sonne or yyu Kanoan	March 4
Margaret ye daughter of James Adams	March 18
Deborah ye daughter of WI Brooke	March 18
1655	1655
Nathan ye sonne of Thomas Turner	March 25
Bathsheba ye daughter of Gilbert Brooke	April 8
Mantha we downton of MM Rostow	Apr 22
Martha ye daughter of Wm Bastow	Apr 22 Apr 29
Mary ye daughter of John Stockbridge	Wbt. 73
Elizabeth ye daughter of James Doughty	May 21
Elizabeth ve daughter of Jeremy Burroughs	May 27 May 27
Elîzabeth ye daughter of Jeremy Burroughs Joseph ye sonne of Humphrey Johnson	July 22
Israell ye sonn of John Turner Junior	J
and grandchild to Humphrey Turner	Novemb 25
Many we downther of Richard Connett	Decemb 30
Mary ye daughter of Richard Garrett	Deceind 22
Elizabeth } ye daughters of Nathaniel Rawlins	E-1- 21
Ruth I and grand children to Richard Sylvester	r Febr 24
Jane ye daughter of Walter Hatch	Mar 9
1656.	1656.
Mary ye daughter of Richard Courtiss	Apr 6
Miles ye sonne of Wm Parker	Apr 6
Lydia ye daughter of Wm Parker	Apr 13
Daniel grandchild to our sister	1
() and sonne to Daniel Pryor	July 6
Ludia de deuxhara of MM Hatch	
Lydia ye daughter of Wm Hatch	July 6
Hannah daughter of Nicholas Wade	Aug 3
Increase some to John Whetston?	Aug 10
Elizabeth day to Thomas Turner	
Susanna daughter to Resolved White	Novemb 9
Margarite ye daughter of Antony Dodson!	Novemb 23
Lydia daughter to Nathaniel Rawlins	
Hannah daughter to Elisha Besbe	Dec 7
Mary ye daughter of John Adams of Warshfield (Dec 14
& great-grandchild to Widdow James)	
Joseph ye sonne of Thos Robinson	Mar 8
Mary we daughter of James Torry	
Mary ye daughter of James Torry } Sarah ye daughter of Thos Ingham }	Mar 22
	16.57
1657.	1657.
Joseph ye sonne of Mr. Joseph Tilden	Mar 26
Mary ye daughter of Jeremiah Burroughs	Apr 5
Elisha ye sonne of John Turner Senior	
Rebecca ye daughter of Gilbert Brooke {	Apr 12
Martha ye daughter of James Doughty)	
Benjamin ye sonne of Richard Sylvester	May 17
menjamin ye some or menara syrvester	1,12,

(To be continued in October HISTORIA.)

THE FIRST PARISH CEMETERY

Contined from June HISTORIA.

Benjamin' Randall
ye 3 son of Mr
Benja Randall Jur
& Mrs Hannah Randall
who died May ye 3
1753-(5) aged 14 months.

Marcy Turner
daughter to Mir
(34) Charles Turner B October
ye 12 1/37 in ye 3*
ye ne of her age

In Memory of Benja 24 son of Capt Benja (29) Randall & Mrs Hannah his wife he died Feb ye 29th 1780 Aged 2 years & 1 month. George Turner son of
Mr Charles Turner
(35) vvho dyed May ye 27th
1738 and aged
I manch.

In Memory Of Mr Ebenezer Simmons who died August ye 3rd 1784 in the 61st year of his age.

Eunice Turner
daught to Mr
(36) Charles Turner
dyed Octobrye 29th
1737 in yé 8th yeare
of her age.

Here lyes ye body of
Desier Silvester Daughter
of Nir Nehemiah and Mrs
Mehetable Silvester who
died May ye 17, 1749
aged 11 years

Erected in memory of Mr Charles Turner who died Octobr 3d 1782 aged 177 years wanting 5 days.

In Memory Of
Lieut Nathaniel Chittenden
(32) who died July ye 26th
1796. Aged 44 years
& 8 months.

Here lies Mrs Eunice Widow of Mr Charles (38) Turner who died Aug 16th 1798 in ye 92d year of her age.

In Memory Of
Temperance Foster
daughter of Mr Elisha
Foster & Mrs Grace
his wife who died
December 16th, 1786,
aged 4 years
wanting 6 days.

In Memory of
Mr George Hatch
(39) who died June 15, 1810,
in his 27:— year.

Here Iyes the body
of Demmeck Bowker son
(40) of Mr Lazarus & Mrs
Abigail Bowker who died
October ye 22,1756, in
ye 7 yr of his age.

Here lyes ye body of Mr Benjamin Stetson who (41) dyed March ye 11th 1739, in ye 75 year of his age.

Capt Samuel Phillips
born in Middletown
and died in this town
Sept 10th 1832
aged 59

Erected In Memory
of Betsey Turner wife
of VVIIII Turner Esqr
by her father Samuel
(43) Oakman. She died

Aug the 28 1771 in the 23d year of her age.
(The above date nearly obliverated—

(The above date nearly obliterated may not be copied correctly on this account.)

In memory of Warren

and Marcy a son and daut of Mr John and Mrs Deborah Hatch Warren died April 7, 1784, in his 10th year Marcy died Decembr 12th 1793 in her

10th Year

In Memory of
Samuel Oakman
Hatch son to Mr John
Hatch & Mrs Deborah
his wife he died
Septbr ye Gtn 1795
in his 17th year.

Continued in October HISTORIA.

HISTORIA.

A little magazine of local history. Published bi-monthly at Norwell Mass.

Publisher, GEORGE C. TURNER.

The October number will contain many interesting articles; among them, "Bowker Street and the Bowker Cemetery."

DEANE'S HISTORY OF SCIT-UATE-A REPRINT.

The undersigned, being greatly interested in the history of Scituate, intend to reproduce Deane's History, which has been out of print for many ye-This valuable book has become so well known to Librarians, Genealogists and Antiquarians, that it is useless to describe it at length, except to say that it should be in duplicate in every Library and Historical Society and in the hands of every Historian and Genealo. gist, containing as it does the genealogies of many of the earliest families of the Pilgrim stock.

Every descendant of the old Scituate families should have a copy in the house as a reference work.

We have decided to offer the reprint at an extremely reasonable price. It is well known that when a copy of the 1831 edition comes upon the market that it sells readily at a high price.

We offer the book, if sufficient pledges of subscriptionare received for \$3.00 per copy in cloth and \$5. In full leather binding.

Please mention HISTORIA

when writing,

Address, Alvin A. Vinal. Bates & Vinal, North Scituate, Mass. PLEASE READ PUBLISHER'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON LAST PAGE.

VOLUME 1.

NUMBER 6.



A MAGAZINE OF LOCAL HISTORY



MORWELL. ~ MASSACHUSETTS.

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GEORGE C. TURNER, PUBLISHER, RIVERDALE, FARM, NORWELL, MASS.



Norwell, (formerly South Scituate) Mass. October, 1899

BOWKER STREET AND THE BOWKER CEMETERY.

in our dear New England which has not some land which has not some claim to historical recognition. Even this lonely street has traditions dating back to 1680. It connects Main Street, near the Nathaniel Brooks place, with Grove Street, formerly called Damon Street.

The old. Dimmick Bowker house is situated on the southern slope of BowkerHill, which is a very steep elevation over which the road climbs.

The Bowker farm was, in days gone by, one of the most extensive in the town of Scituate, and farming of the real old-fashioned kind was here carried on.

On the summit of the hill stood the David Bowker house long since torn down. The lilac bushes still grow beside the old foundation, and the grove of decaying appletrees tell of human thought and planning.

The view from this spot is charming, although scarcely a house or an acre of cultivated land can be seen. To the east one notices Hoop-Pole Hill, near which Richard

Prouty settled in 1670. Several of this pioneer's grand-children removed together to Spencer, Massachusetts, where many descendants now live. The Proutys of Ridge Hill and Scituate are also descendants of Richard.

The site of the David Bowker house is not readily located at most times of year, as shrubs and trees are growing very numerous on the border of the street, but in May the lovely blossoms of the "old homestead" flower of New England, the lillac, are delicate reminders of a household of years ago.

There were many children at this old house and none of them have remained in South Scituate. We believe that only two of David Bowker's children are now living. Mr. Edwin L. Bowker of Waltham, and Mrs. Laura Chapman of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Old Bowker Street in its loneliness and desertion does not seem likely to have had much influence, in any way, upon the world. Still, if you will go into the city of Boston, you will find a business street in the northern part of the city proper, which

takes its name from a gentleman whose boyhood home was on the top of Bowker

Hill, Scituate.

Bovker Street, Boston, was named for Mn Edwin L. Bowker, the son of David Bowker, about 1870. It was, before that, Adams Street. Benjamin James, formerly of Scituate, was Chairman of the committee for naming streets (he being an Alderman from East Boston) and upon his recommendation the new name was given.

Bowker Street, Boston, and Bowker Street, Norwell, have nothing in common beside the

name. The latter passes through a country the wildness of which seems almost primeval, while the former is bordered by massive manufacturing buildings, not the least important of which is the great marble working establishment of Bowker, Torrey & Co.

After David Bowker's family moved away from the old house, we are informed that it was occupied by a family by the name of Clapp of which Mr. Edwin Clapp, now of East Weymouth, was a member.

The first Bowkers settled near the northern end of the street. Deane says "James Bowker (from Sweden) was in Scituate 1680. His farm was laid out on the east of Burnt Plain and west of Samuel Bryant's land. His wife was Mary. His children were

James, Mary and Lazarus, the last two being baptized in the second Church, 1686; also Richard Edmund and Benjamin.

James succeeded to his father's residence. He married Hannah Lambert, 1717. His children were five sons and

seven daughters.

Four of the sons settled near the original farm, viz: Lazarus, James, John and Edmund. Joseph removed to Maine.

BENJAMIN has left clescendants here. RICHARD lived in Pembroke, and left

sons."

Mr. Deane also says under the head of "Burying Grounds" "There is a burying ground of the family of Bowker hear Burnt Plain, where several, generations have been buried. This cemetery is located near the northerly end of Bow. ker Street and is wholly neglected. It is well enclosed by stone walls, and this was evidently done by some descendant of Elijah Bowker, as a substantial monument to this family is the only Bowker stone in the yard.

It is to be regretted that no more stones were erected. Partial explanation of this fact may be found in the evidence that there was an old tomb here which has

been filled up.

If one pushes through the brambles which cover the yard he finds two slate stones

with these inscriptions:

In Memory of Miss Polly D. daughter of George and Polly Litchfield, who died August 17. 1835, aged 24 years, 2 mos, 16 days.

In Memory of Miss Eurice, daughter of John and Eurice Daman, who died Sept. 18, 1835, aged 63 years 7 mos and 15 days.

Two prostrategrave-stones, badly broken, are in memory of Reuben Sutton and his wife. There was an old house somewhere on Bowker Street, we believe, which was known as the Sutton house.

Reuben Sutton Died May 15 1822, aged 43 yrs.

Sarah his wife died Jan 14, 1842 aged 72 years.

We conclude this imperfect sketch of the Bowker neighborhood with the inscription from Elijah Bowker monument.

In Memory Of Father & Mother. Elijah Bowker born Nov. 18, 1764. Anny Sylvester

born April 1, 1768. Father passed away 1812. Mother 1816.

Also their children

Elijah born 1788 Sally S born 1790 John born 1792 James S born 1794 Delight born 1796 Charles born 1798 Charlotte born 1801 Rebecca born 1803 Dorcassina born 1805 Ruth born 1809

A LETTER FROM MINNESOTA.

(Mrs. Thomas is descended from Williams Brooks. She left Scillate in 1837 with her father's family.)

Lakeland, Minn, Mar. 12, 1899.

much of Mr. Deane. I have been to his house for a school book, and went to meeting sometimes Father and Mother belonged to his church and I have seen him occasionally. Once he came to our house to have father and mother go with him to the Delano home, to marry my father's uncle, Seth Stodder, to Hannah Sprague. I went with father and Mr. Deane, they seated me on a little cricket or footstool.

. They had other ministers after that, Mr. Holland of Boston and Samuel J. May. I was quite young when I used to go occasionally to the old church, near where the present one is. I was baptized in the old meeting-house, I think.

Your friend.
Eunice Thomas.

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COLLAMORE'S I FDGE

A re-production of an article which appeared in a local newspaper several years ago. It deserves careful reading. The author is the well-known antiquarian, Charles Otis Ellms of Greenbush.

Off North Scituate beach lies a ledge, where at times the breakers lash with dismal roar, leaving the sea white with foaming crests, as the nearby watch tower casts its warning light. Then at times the water seems petrified like polished blue marble, tempting one to walk on its treacherous surface as the billows softly roll with no hostile aspect towards a friendly shore.

On the 16th day of December, 1693, Capt. Anthony Collamore, with five persons, sailed from Scituate Harborin a sloop laden with wood for Boston and was cast away and all lost on this ledge, which has borne the name of Collamore ever since. Some 17 years ago there was found in the home of a lineal descendant of the 6th generation of Capt. Collamore, quaint elegiac lines on his death, styled "Threnodia, or a mournful Remembrance of the much to be lamented Death of the worthy and Pious Capt. Anthony Collamore" It is written by Deadate Lawson. the minister of the South Parish of Scituate, whose place of worship stood where now is an ancient bury ing ground in Norwell on the

hill near where the road leads to Union Bridge. There are 30 verses. They were printed at Boston by Bartho Green in 1694. A few of them I will make mention of—

"December last upon the sixteenth day,
"Within the Harbor lay at Scituate
"Some Loaden Boats to Boston bound away,
"Which for Fair wind and weather
there did wait.

'Aniongst the Rest was Capt Collamore, Whose sad disaster we must now Deplore.

'Some Boats with Sails expanded led the way

Out of the Harbor, and did fairly glide.
'Thus one by one stood out into the Bay,
'With wind at East North East and
Flowing Tide.

'The Captain in the Rere did Hoist up Saile,

'And hasted after with a steddy Gale.

'But Dangers great did quickly him Surprise 'The clouds did gather and obscure' the Sun.

Winds whistled, Snow came thick and seas did rise,

'And He was at a loss which way to run, 'As did appear to somethat were before 'Who quickly after saw the Boat no more.

'But on the Fourteenth day one did espy,
'A Corps he judged was Captain Cellamore,
'Yet could not know Him for a certainty
'By anything but by the Cloaths he wore,
'His form and visage utterly was lost,
'Having by vvaves and Rocks been so
long tossed.

'In Scituate let each Inhabitant,
'Greatly lament this worthy Person's
fall,

Both Rich and Poor his Courtesy will want.

'Who still was ready to oblige them all.

'It was to many by Experience known, 'He valued others' good before his own. "He was the Captain of the warlike train,
"Love was his Banner, Love was his
detence,

'Their Cheerful Service was returned again.
'His Acceptation was their Recompence.'
In that Great Company Command he bore,
'Were mustered two hundred men and
more,

'The North Society in Scituate
'Hath lost a Leading Man and Loving
Friend

'Who ready was with Person and Estate,
'Onevery good Occasion help to lend,
'His Care and Conscience plainly did appear
'To settle and maintain God's worship
there."

"It contains the blood of a Howard" is a comparison used in England, so high an esteem was held for that family through the various Dukes of Norfolk.

In New England we have families that need no comparison to a Howard. We will take for instance Capt. Collamore's descendants. We find in them the judge, the physician, the merchant and on every war roll from the settlement of the country the name of Collamore appears. We see the upright Judge Collamore of Vermont Post-Master General under Pres. Taylor, afterwards U.S. Senator from Vermont, who when presented with a horse returned it to its owner saying "no judge should Senator receive a present. Douglas when engineering the Nebraska bill in the interest of the slave holders said that Judge Collamore gave him more trouble than all the other opposition.

Among the physician's wefind Dr. Anthony Collamore, a graduate of Harvard, and my esteemed friend Dr. Francis Collamore of North Pembroke, whose friendship! have enjoyed

for the past 25 years as sucretary and treasurer of the Marshfield Agricultural and Horticultural society; Henry Collamore, our late Representative to the General Court: Davis Collamore a merchant of New York, whose fine herd of Jersey cattle was so highly prized; George Collamore, who was mavor of Lawrence, Kansas; the late J.H.Collamore, whose benevolence to his brethren of the mystic tie we have seen; I could make mention of many more of Capt. Collamore's descendants, but space forbids.

daughter. Elizabeth, was John Cleves Symmes, who was a colonel in the Revolution, Judge of Supreme Court of New Jersey, member of the Continental Congress, whose daughter married President Wni. H. Harrison, the grandfather of President Benj. Harrison. Through the kindness of Mrs. Briggs, of Neponset, a descendant of Capt. Collamore, I have received a copy of a letter from President Benj. Harrison, in which he acknowledged receiving the lines on the death of

Capt. Collamore and said that

he had heard through his grand-

mother Harrison of his great

grandfather John Symmes. He

The grandson of Capt. Collamore's

expressed great thanks for the copy of Threnodia.

It is a matter for eongratulation that the Society of Mayflower Descendantshas undertaken the publication of a quarterly "The Mayflower Descendant." It is issued from the Society's headquarters 623 Tremont Building, Boston, Mass.

THE FIRST PARISH CEMETERY.

Continued from August HISTORIA.

Directly back of the Delano tomb is a large lot raised much higher than the surrounding ground. This mound contains the graves of Rev. David Barnes and Rev. Samuel Deane and members of their families. Mrs. Helen Deane Rockwell whose home was in Chicago, she being the last surviving child of Mr. Deane, is buried here.

In this lot was also buried Madame Hannah Cushing, the Widow of Hon William Cushing the Justice of the Supreme Court, whom tradition says administered the oath of office to President Washington at the commencement of his second term. Mr. Cushing was buried, we understand, in the old Cushing tomb on Belle House Neck, near Greenbush.

The inscriptions from the Minister's Lot follow. The Barnes, Deane and Cushing monuments are of the old brick walled style with horizontal marble slabs at the top.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF THE REVEREND DAVID BARNES DUCTOR OF DIVINITY SENIOR PASTOR OF THE SECOND CHURCH OF CHRIST IN SCITUATE. HE WAS BORN AT MARLBOROUGH MARCH 24th A.D. 1731. GRAD-UATED AT HARVARD COLLEGE

1752, WAS ORDAINED DECEM-BER 4th 1754. DIED APRIL 26th, 1811, AGED 80.

(46) ALSO TO THE MEMORY OF MRS RACHEL WIFE OF THE REVEREND DAVID BARNES AND DAUGHTER OF THE HON GEORGE LEONARD OF NORTON SHE DIED OCTOBER 22nd, 1805 AGED 78.

JOHN MILTON DEANE BORN JUNE 13, 1816, DIED MAY 22, 1832. HELEN MARIA DEANE BORN APRIL 9, 1819, DIED JUNE 24, 1820.

REV SAMUEL DEANE BORN AT MANSFIELD, MARCH 31, 1784 ORDAINED AT SCITUATE OVER

(47) 14, 1810, DIED AUG 9,1834. STELLA HIS WIFE DIED JAN 12, 1850, AGED G3 YEARS.

HELEM M WIFE OF DENTIS ROCKWELL AND DAUGHTER OF REV SAMUEL DEANE. 1821-1883.

THE REMAINS OF MADAME HANNAH CUSHING WIDDW OF HON WM. CUSHING, L.L.D.

(49) LATE JUSTICE OF S. COURT OF U.S. REST HERE. DECEASED MAY 12, 1834, AGED 80.

(50) STETSON DIED MAY 30, 1854 AGED 90 YEARS.

We continue with stones which lie easterly and north-

Nov 7.

NOV 7

easterly from the Minister's lot.

Here Ives the Body of Mrs Abigail Bowker wife of Mr (51) Lazarus Bowker who died July 16, 1768 in the 44thyr of her age.

Here lyes ye body of Mr (52) Isril Sylvester who dyed March ve 25, 1727 aged 8 yrs.

In Memory Of Mrs Debo-(53) rah wife of Mr John Hatch. She died June ye 11, 1799 aged 47 yrs & 5 mos.

In memory of Mr John Hatch who died March (54) 12 1819 in the 71st year of his age.

Here Ives the body of Caleb Stetson son of Mr (55) William Stetson who died

December ye 5, 1750 aged 25 years.

Of course but a small traction of the oldest inscriptions have yet been given.

BAPTISMS BY REV. WILLIAM WETHERELL TO (The first pastor of the South or Second Church, Scituate.)

- Continued from August HISTORIA -1657. 1657. Elizabeth) ye children of George & Elizabeth Vaughan May 31. Joseph Daniell June 28 Thomas the sonne of William Brooke Aug 23. Sept 20 John ye sonne of John Rogers June Benjamin ye sonne of Humphrey Johnson John, Ralph the sonnes) of Ralph Chapman Sept 27. Grace, Hannah, the daughters of John Phillips Octob 4. Joseph the sonne Timothy the sonne of Rob't Studson Octob II. Benjamin the sonne of William Randall Novemb 8. Mary ye daughter of Thomas Robinson Febr 23. 1658 1658. May 2 July 4 Martha ye daughter of Richard Courtis Patience ye daughter of Nathaniel Rawlins Benjamin the sonne of John Phillips Aug 15. Mary the daughter of Thomas Oldham Octob 3 John the sonne of Thomas Clappe Oct 31.

Mary the daughter of Thomas Turner

John the sonne of Geo and Elizabeth Vaughan

BROOKS ISLAND.

Above Union Bridge there are not many islands in the North River marshes. Probably the largest one is the one situated north and east of Dwelley Creek. It is bounded on two sides by the creek, on the north by a large tract of marshes, and on the east by the "river meadows".

The island is entirely covered with wood and contains

several acres.

Dwelley Creek was formerly called Till's Creek, and this explains the following from the town records. William Brooks settled near here in 1644, and the island remained in the family until sold to Abial Turner in 1837.

May the 31th 1659, in a full Town Meeting – Given by the Inhabitants of the Towne of Sittuate unto William Brooke A Certaine Island of upland Lyinge in the marsh on the northerly side of the Creeke commonly called and knowne by the name of Till's Creeke.

PUBLISHER'S AMMOUNCEMENT.

After giving much thought to the subject! have decided that I must suspend HISTORIA for the present. I am glad to be able to place before you the sixth number and hope that the volume will prove of much historical value. I hope patrons will realize that it is almost impossible for me to give further time to this work at present. I should not have persevered in such exacting work solong had it not been for a personal resolve to preserve some of neglected history of South Scituate, even if at a sacrifice.

I am deeply grateful for all the help which has been given me. Several gentlemen have willingly done more than their share, thus making it possible for me to work with

less apprehension of financial loss.

Thankfully acknowledging, also, the many kind and en-

couraging words, I remain

Yours respectfully,

Riverdale Farm, Norwell.

GEORGE C. TURNER.

Those who have subscribed in advance will receive their refund about Dec. 15.

FULL SETS OF YOLUME ONE, OF HISTORIA, CAN NOW BE SUPPLIED







